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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that the shortened statutory period which was set for responding to the Office Action dated July 3, 2002, in the above-identified patent application be extended for three-months until November 3, 2002. In view of the fact that November 3, 2002 fell on a Sunday, applicant respectfully submits that the present response filed on Monday, November 4, 2002 is properly filed within the three-month extension.

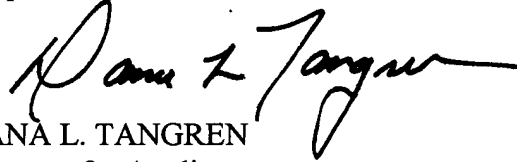
Form PTO-2038 submitting Credit Card Payment in the amount of \$920.00 is enclosed herewith for payment of the fee associated with this Petition, as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17. The

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Petition to Deposit Account No. 23-3178. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefore and charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

Dated this 4th day of November 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana L. Tangren", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

DANA L. TANGREN
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,246

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